

The *TIMES* of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

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Summer 2017

<http://SDTimes.org/index.html>

The oldest neighborhood newspaper in St. Louis

FREE

Independent and all volunteer-run since 1970

Ferris Wheel Proposed for Delmar and Skinker

By Richard Bose

A 100-foot diameter Ferris wheel is proposed for the southeast corner of Delmar and Skinker in The Delmar Loop. Tony Sansone, Jr. and his son Michael Sansone of Sangita Capital Partners, and Todd Schneider of Pacific Development LLC kicked off the community engagement effort by presenting the plan to the Delmar Commercial Committee May 4. They hope to add a family-friendly attraction to the walkable entertainment district. This is the second big Ferris wheel proposal in the city in addition to one proposed for Union Station.

The wheel includes 20 fully-enclosed climate-controlled gondolas with capacity of six each. One ride would consist of four trips around, and your group wouldn't be expected to ride with others. They hope for 150,000 rides per year. The site would include concessions including a beer garden. The garden area would be flexible space. They would seek a 1:30 AM liquor license. The planned hours of operation of the wheel would be 12-10 PM Sunday through Thursday and 12-12 Friday and Saturday night. From Memorial Day to Labor Day it would operate 12-12 daily as demand warranted. The operator also operates Skyview Atlanta, a larger (20-story) Ferris wheel in Centennial Park. They have signed a 10-year lease for the property and are not seeking tax incentives.

Concerns about parking, distracting drivers, lighting, and height were expressed at the meeting. The site plan shows 15 on-site parking spaces along the alley, and they are working on the possibility of using the New Cote Brilliance Church parking lot northwest of Skinker and Enright. They reassured the committee that lighting would not be overwhelming. Its height would be between the 8-story Moonrise Hotel and

the 14-story Everly apartment building. Dwarfing the church next door is a concern for some congregation members. Alderman Frank Williamson expressed his wholehearted support for the project and would welcome it to the 26th ward if this site (in the 28th ward) doesn't work out.

At a neighborhood meeting held May 30th at New Cote Brilliance Church similar concerns were aired. The development team assured that only uplighting would be used on the neighborhood side of the wheel, and it would be turned off when not operating. The wheel turns with electric motors which would be quiet. Any music would be directed at the dining area. They would have 24-hour on-site security. One attendee had recently visited the wheel in Atlanta and thought it was great. Traffic congestion and parking worries were brought up by several neighbors. The development team feels that the wheel won't be a destination in and of itself, rather a part of the destination that is the Delmar Loop. Meaning they expect most patrons to ride the wheel in addition to partaking in other activities in the Loop.

The parcel is currently zoned F-Neighborhood Commercial which has a height limit of three stories and 50 feet. The Ferris wheel would require a variance. It is within the Skinker-DeBaliviere-Catlin Tract-Parkview Historic District. The Delmar Link Area Redevelopment Plan ordinance applies as well.

The almost 4-year vacant site is shown in the Skinker DeBaliviere Neighborhood plan as a traditional building replacing the boarded-up 45-year-old fast food building. Michael Sansone said the owner of the property refuses to sell at a price that makes such a development feasible. The Ferris wheel would certainly contribute more to the tax base. Schneider said the project would cost about \$4M.



100+ neighbors came to New Cote Brilliance Church on May 30 to hear about and discuss the proposed ferris wheel.

Another consideration is the tension between adding land uses that attract more people to the Loop from outside the immediate area and those that serve residents and workers on Delmar and in adjacent neighborhoods. Or the desire for more family-friendly activities nearby. Or land uses that enhance walkability to foster car-optional living versus those that attract more cars. For example Skinker DeBaliviere lacks senior-compatible housing. This site could have a building with an elevator and would be within walking distance to necessities and transit to other parts of the city (like medical services in the CWE). Accommodating less parking would make the rents more affordable.

Comments are welcome to the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council. Comments may be addressed to SDCC at 862-5122 or emailed to Brandon Sterling, Executive Director, at brandon.sterling@skinker-debaliviere.com. There will be a meeting of the Delmar Commercial Committee July 19th at noon at the SDCC office to decide whether the committee will recommend support to the full SDCC. The neighborhood has a lot of sway as to whether this happens. Do we wait for something meeting the desires expressed in the neighborhood plan for the site for an unknown amount of time or remove the current eyesore and activate this property now?



SDCC Summer Concerts

Two Venues again this year!

July and September -

Greg Freeman Park

6000 Kingsbury Ave. at Des Peres Ave.

August - Lucier Park

at Hamilton and Westminster

Bring your friends or the whole family to the FREE SD concert series!

BBQ & beverages will be for sale.

All proceeds help support the concert series.

Saturday July 15, 6-9pm

Greg Freeman Park: BBQ Concert
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Tuesday August 1, 6-9pm

Lucier Park: National Night Out
BBQ Concert - Band TBA

Saturday September 9, 6-9pm

Greg Freeman Park:
BBQ Concert - Band TBA

This concert series is presented with support from the Regional Arts Commission.



Javier Mendoza at Lucier Park



photo courtesy of Denise Thimes

Denise Thimes

Ivory Perry Park Concert Series

Free Outdoor Concerts every 4th Sunday in June, July August, 6-8 p.m.

Union Communion Ministries (UCM) proudly presents the 15th annual Free Ivory Perry Park Summer Concert Series. West End residents and visitors from around St. Louis are all welcome to enjoy this incredible summer music series! The concerts take place in The West End at Ivory Perry Park, 800 N. Belt, at Delmar and DeBaliviere; on Belt two blocks north of former Connect Care). In case of inclement weather the concert will be held at Pilgrim Church UCC, 826 Union Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63108.

The concerts are from 6-8 pm and pre-concert activities start at 5:30 pm (food vendors, children's activities, community organizations, plus YogaBuzz will lead free yoga in the park. Bring your mat or borrow a mat.)

JUNE 25: the series will kick-off with Denise Thimes. (This is very

special!!!) Denise was the first performer at the debut of the Ivory Perry Park Concert Series 15 years ago. Her career spans three decades, during which she has performed nationally and internationally, even singing for Queen Elizabeth II! She is one the most cherished voices of modern jazz. You won't want to miss the first Lady of St. Louis jazz!

JULY 23: features Marquise Knox! Marquise is a young and amazingly talented native St. Louisian blues musician. Knox has played with the greats, B.B. King, Pinetop Perkins, and David "Honeyboy" Edwards. Now Marquise will play in Ivory Perry Park with his very talented band!

AUGUST 27: Do you want to dance? If dancing is what you want then join us for Dirty Muggs, one of the hottest St. Louis bands! Dirty Muggs is Saint Louis's premier group for high energy, family fun and dancing!

For more information: www.IPPConcerts.com
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UCM Executive Director, at 314-367-2112

Editor's Notebook

By Lana Stein

I have two themes to address today. The events of recent days in our nation's capital seem to illustrate the maxim that I taught for many years, namely government can't be run like a business. Or, as Graham Allison put it, they are alike in unimportant respects. The success or failure of a business can be gauged by examining a profit-loss statement; government does not produce a product for the market. The size of a bureau's budget is a surrogate gauge. The rules take over behavior, not sales. Remedies to improve performance in the private sector fail when applied to government (Zero-Based Budgeting, Management by Objectives, etc.)

A successful business person could be like a duck out of water when he or she moves into a position of governmental leadership. Yet, in this country, our heroes have frequently been from the business world. Elected officials are disparaged. Government is the problem, according to President Reagan. This is all open to debate of course but we now are able to see how someone with no experience can fare in the Oval Office. We need to move beyond the myths guiding our perceptions of both government and business and understand how structure affects both.

New topic: Proposals are being floated which would raise the monthly fee for garbage pick-up. If you don't want to see this bill going up too much, RECYCLE! It costs far less for the city to dispose of recyclables than it does the trash from the trash dumpster which goes in a land fill. If you don't care about the planet, think about your pocketbook. Go to stlouisrecycles on the web. The do's and dont's are clearly displayed: no plastic bags in the bin and break down your boxes.

New SDCC Committee Formed

By Hitch Powell, Chairman

The Community Development Committee of the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council has formed a subcommittee to look into issues related to occupancy levels in residential rental properties within the neighborhood. The subcommittee was formed in response to information provided by a group of residents. The information indicated a growing problem with landlords renting single family residences and individual apartment units to more than three unrelated persons, often university students. This practice violates St. Louis City Ordinances.

Hitch Powell was appointed subcommittee chair and Linda Cross was elected recording secretary. The subcommittee is open to any Skinker DeBaliviere neighbor or anyone else with an interest in the issue. Meetings are held in public and minutes are provided to subcommittee members, the Community Development Committee and the SDCC Board. Current members include, a diverse group of neighbors, Washington University representatives, City of St. Louis Building Division representatives, rental property owners, real estate professionals, and the SDCC Executive Director.

The subcommittee has held two meetings and reported back to the council at the last SDCC board meeting. The subcommittee has already identified one property in violation to be used as a test case. Committee members have provided the needed documentation and the SDCC Director has submitted a formal complaint to the City. The committee is in the process of identifying all neighborhood properties in violation of the City's prohibition of more than three unrelated occupants. Along the way, the subcommittee has also discussed other issues, like the neighborhood's growing renter footprint, the need for affordable housing for young and old residents, and education for both investors who want to buy or rent property in the neighborhood and the neighbors who are considering selling their homes.

In about three months, the subcommittee will submit a recommended plan of additional action to its parent committee, Community Development, for review. Those interested in the work of the subcommittee or in becoming a member are encouraged to contact the council office at (314)862-5122.

Guidelines for Submitting Copy

The Times welcomes unsolicited articles and letters. Because of the small size and volunteer nature of the writing staff, the quality and range of the Times has always depended in large part on submissions from non-staff area residents.

The writer is responsible for the accuracy of the data, including times, dates, location, and particularly the spelling of names. The editor retains the right to omit or alter any material. Opinions expressed in Commentaries are the opinion of the author.

Deadline for next issue: August 15, 2017.

Please send copy by e-mail to jvatcha@gmail.com or by disc to 6117 Westminster, St. Louis, MO 63112.



28th ward candidate Heather Navarro with Committeeman Art Perry and Committeewoman Gail Farwell

Aldermanic Election July 11

By Lana Stein

Roughly 60% of our neighborhood is part of the 28th Ward. Its long-serving alderman, Lyda Krewson, has become Saint Louis's mayor, and 28th Ward voters have to help select a replacement. There are many different ways of filling vacancies. These vary by state, locality, and position. The U.S. Constitution stipulates that voters choose anew member of the House of Representatives by direct election. Otherwise, local and/or state option prevails.

The St. Louis Charter calls for the Democratic Central Committee and the Republican counterpart to name candidates for a special election. Anyone else interested may run as an independent. For the 28th, its Democratic Committeeman Art Perry and Committeewoman Gail Farwell chose a candidate and asked the Central Committee to place that person's name on the ballot. After a slight hiccup, the Democratic candidate will be Heather Navarro.

Heather is a Skinker DeBaliviere resident and head of the Coalition for the Environment. She is an attorney, and she is active at St. Roch School, which her two children attend. She has also lived in the eastern part of the ward and organized a neighborhood group there. She says she is a strong believer in constituent service. She was welcomed by the 28th Ward Regular Democratic Organization at their meeting on May 18, and she will attend the June 18 meeting to share more of her background and agenda.

Heather Navarro will be joined on the July 11 special election ballot by at least two candidates running as independents. Celeste Vossmeier is an attorney who lives on Pershing Place and Steve Roberts Sr. is now chief of staff in the Sheriff's office and served as an alderman for the old 20th Ward in north city. He lives on Portland Place and has been involved in various businesses with his brother Mike, also a former alderman. Both brothers had run unsuccessfully for mayor.

For those in the 28th Ward, remember to vote in the July 11 Special Election!

VOTE DEMOCRAT
HEATHER NAVARRO
 FOR 28TH WARD ALDERWOMAN

A neighbor you can count on. Committed to you. Ready to serve.

I have lived in the 28th ward for 14 years, raising my two children, working, and serving my community. I will bring my experience as a neighbor, a mom, and a community advocate to work hard for the 28th Ward and the City of St. Louis.

28th Ward Democrats Regular Meeting June 15 at Dressels
• Special Election July 11 •

Paid for by Heather Navarro for the 28th Ward, Randy Vines, Treasurer

The TIMES of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

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Readers are welcome to send us e-mail or letters commenting on any of our content. Send to jvatcha@gmail.com or maxlana@sbcglobal.net.

News of Neighbors

By Rachel Boxdorfer



Let's begin with happy news for our Summer issue--a special new addition to the 5900 block of McPherson! Josiah James Matthews was born on March 18 at 3:34 am, measuring 22 inches long and 7 pounds, 12 oz. Baby Joss joins proud big brother, Toby (4 years old) along with mom and dad, Jenny and Buzz Matthews. They are all very much in love! Congratulations to all!

Goodbye neighbors. Hello neighbors! That's exactly what we can all say to Andy & Molly Mulcahy and Frank and Mary Hellwig. The Mulcahy's moved from their condo on the 6100 block of Washington and the Hellwigs from their home on the 6100 block of McPherson. The fabulous news is, neither went far. In fact, they went to each other's former homes! It's not the first house swap in the neighborhood and probably won't be the last. Welcome to the neighborhood!

Longtime Parkview resident, Eli Shuter passed away on April 6th at the age of 81. Eli was a respected doctor and mentor. Eli loved Lambic beer, dahlias, Blues hockey, opera, art, marathon clamming, biking, national parks, Mel Brooks and questionable jokes. A graduate of Cornell University and Washington University Medical School, Eli was a neurologist for over 50 years and founded the St. Louis Neurological Institute at Christian Hospital Northeast, where he also served as Chief of Staff. He

was an Associate Professor at Washington University and especially enjoyed rounds with his residents at Barnes Hospital. He was married 56 years to Renni Shuter (deceased). Our heartfelt condolences go out to the entire family.



News from Albert Webster and Kristina Stierholtz of the 6300 block of Waterman in Parkview is all about graduations this year! Lilly Webster will graduate with honors and a degree in Mathematics from Grinnell College, Iowa. She has been involved in theater and dance as stage manager, carpenter, and stage technician throughout her time there. Lilly now heads to the University of Minnesota to pursue her PhD in Math; her current field of study is Algebraic Combinatorics. Lilly is a graduate of Nerinx Hall and attended St. Roch school for 7th and 8th grades.



Eric Webster will graduate from Lutheran North High School. He has played soccer and tennis at North, is a member of their Concentus select choir, and has performed in all of their plays and musicals. He is a peer minister, small group leader, and a member of the National Honor Society. Eric will attend Valparaiso University to pursue a degree in Chemistry. He is one of two Lutheran Leadership Scholarship awardees,

a program that will provide academic and practical training in leadership while paying his tuition. Eric attended St. Roch school starting in third grade.

Kris and Albert's "host son" Dylan Sun has lived with them the entire school year and has attended Lutheran North since Sophomore year. He will graduate with Eric. Dylan is heading to the University of Washington Seattle to pursue a degree in Mechanical Engineering.



The literary world suffered a great loss in April that hit home for many neighbors in Skinker DeBaliviere. Famed and award winning author Patricia McKissack died at the age of 72 on April 7. Her son Frederick McKissack, Jr. said he believed she may have died of a broken heart, having lost her best friend and partner in both life and career, Frederick McKissack, in 2013. The McKissacks lived on the 5800 block of Pershing for many years as part of the original Skinker-DeBaliviere "pioneers". They were among the most prolific children's authors on African-American history, folklore and stories, having published more than 100 books and won multiple honors, including a Newbery Honor and nine Coretta Scott King Author and Honor awards. Our condolences go out to their three sons, and we take comfort to know that their talent will live on in their books.

Do you have news to share?

Please send your submissions via email with the subject line News of Neighbors to rachelb@sdtimes.org or drop off a note to the attention of Rachel Boxdorfer at the Skinker DeBaliviere office. Be sure to mark it "News of Neighbors". We love to hear about neighbors accomplishments, awards, travels, weddings, anniversaries, births, and more!



28th Ward honored Alderwoman and now Mayor Lyda Krewson with a box of personal memories from constituents and friends.

St. Roch Fundraiser for AC



Monsignor Sal Pollizzi and some of the hardworking fundraisers at the April 30 dinner at the Cedars.

St. Roch School, an integral neighborhood institution, will soon be air conditioned and have a new heating system to boot. Students and teachers are thrilled. An amazing capital campaign has raised the needed funds. As the culmination of this drive, alums, current and past parents, parishioners and other friends of St. Roch crowded into the Cedars banquet room for a delicious dinner in exchange for a generous contribution. Every seat at every table was filled. With days warming earlier in the calendar and heat that often endures past Labor Day, the new air conditioning should aid comfort, learning and recruitment. So chill all.

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Daniel Rater Speaks-Getting Even



Please allow me to introduce myself. I've been your neighbor for twenty years. If you're unable to put my name to a face, don't fret. I'm not out much in the neighborhood, unless beer is served. To lift the fog and clear the confusion, I should mention my wife, Molly. People might know her. She's all over the neighborhood, volunteering for this, that and the other. Molly feels it's ever body's duty to volunteer; but I argue, if people like me start volunteering, it diminishes the investment of her and the others. After all, I'm one of the guys responsible for making the handyman an economically viable career choice. I like to think of myself as "the man behind the woman". She does the heavy lifting, while I remind her to bend at the knees.

Molly and I've raised three girls in the neighborhood. Our youngest is graduating eighth grade at St. Roch, ending a nineteen year run at the neighborhood institution. Our oldest is graduating from the University of Wisconsin in Madison. It makes one pause, and think, my God, I'm old. But it also makes one yearn for the precious moments that vanish in a blink of the eye. And just as soon as you fill your heart with treasured memories, they come back, like locusts at the summer solstice, with bags of dirty laundry. They eat your crops, damage your credit card and lay waste to your kitchen. But every parent is like the commissioner of the NFL, we strive for parity so that each franchise has a chance to win the Super Bowl. In my house, each kid gets a trophy, because I'll be counting on them to get me across the goal line in the sunset of my years.

I don't have to tell anyone reading this, but the Skinker-Debaliviere neighborhood is a hidden gem. In fact, it's so hidden Siri can't pronounce it, and pizza delivery drivers can't find it. "I'm sorry. I can't find Sprinkler-Mr. Belvedere. Can I help you find something else?" Yes Siri. You can help me find my pepperoni pizza, before it dies a cold, lonely death, stuck behind a dead end cul-de-sac. The beauty of the neighborhood lies in its central location. The proximity to some of St. Louis's most venerable landmarks: Forest Park, Washington University, the Zoo, Busch Stadium, and The MUNY. Although I maintain The MUNY is more enjoyable in theory, rather than execution. It also showcases an eclectic tapestry of color, and vibrancy, woven together by threads from the past and present, plus we have a trolley. A diverse community, stitched together with the common desire to create a wonderful neighborhood to raise a family and live a life. Or so I've been told. I'll have to trust my wife on that one. It's hard to see the sunlight from my Man Cave.

Anyway, it was nice meeting all of you, and I hope we can talk again. If you catch a glimpse of me in the neighborhood, I'll just let you know, I prefer Budweiser, but will drink most any kind of beer. Have a great summer!

FREE OUTDOOR CONCERTS

4th Sunday in June, July, & August

The West End's
Ivory Perry Park
800 N. Belt, 63112

(2 blocks N. of former Connect Care @ Delmar)
Rain Location: Pilgrim Church UCC, 826 N. Union Blvd, 63108

6 p.m.
www.IPPConcerts.com  

Presented by Union Communion Ministries (UCM) 314-367-2112

SUPPORT provided by: The Whitaker Foundation, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Pilgrim Congregational UCC, Union Avenue Christian Church, St. Louis Friends Meeting (Quakers), Busey Bank, TKC Holdings, 26th ward Alderman, Frank Williamson

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KIDS CORNER

By Susanne Knese

Mark your calendar for the Annual Dog Show

at Four Corners on Tuesday, June 13th from 7 – 8pm.

Yes, kids I have printed these summer ideas before, but they are tried and true and fun to play.

Fun and Different ideas for this Summer:

- Fruit picking at a local orchard
- Go to a drive-in movie
- Make popsicles from your favorite drink
- Tour a cave (nice and cool too)
- Bike River Des Peres, Grant's Trail or Katy Trail
- Explore a park and playground you have never visited before
- Splash around City Garden and it's water park
- Catch a movie or relax with a good book at the library

Top Summer Roadtrip games:

1. License Plate Game – try to find all 50 states
2. Backseat BINGO – fun and free printable copies online
3. ABC Game – find letters of the alphabet based on signs, license plates, etc.
4. Picnic Game – “I’m going on a picnic and I will bring” it goes around the car with each person bringing something different BUT you have to memorize and name what everyone else is bringing first to make sure there are not duplicates.
5. 20 Questions – guess the item based only ‘yes’ or ‘no’ answers

Question for September Kids Corner:

Tell us about your summer. Favorite adventure in St. Louis? Where did you go on vacation? Would you recommend it to other kids? Please include your name and submit to kidscorner@sdtimes.org by August 10th! This is YOUR corner, so make it what you want!



Science is Sprouting at St. Roch School

Students excited about Bibb lettuce, bok choy and Swiss chard may seem unlikely to parents of most elementary and middle school students. At St. Roch Catholic School, the students are excited about planting, harvesting and eating salads while learning about science thanks to some innovative teachers and a boost from local and national organizations.

St. Roch's participation in the Green St. Louis Machine started with an invitation from a parent to a science teacher at St. Roch. Parent Kasia Radecka asked Paul Shaver to attend a workshop at Matthews-Dickey Boys Club with Stephen Ritz, a teacher and administrator from New York. Ritz started the Green Bronx Machine, an initiative that uses tower gardens to develop healthier, more engaged students in the South Bronx area of New York City. At the workshop, students served a soup and salad they made from the greens they grew using the tower gardens. Shaver was immediately intrigued.

Shaver and Radecka applied for membership in the St. Louis Green Machine and received a grant that allowed the school to purchase three tower gardens for St. Roch. Tower gardens are vertical, aeroponic growing systems that allow users to grow up to 20 vegetables, herbs, fruits, and flowers in less than seven square feet of space either indoors or outside. St. Roch's tower gardens are located inside the middle school.

“The students are hooked. It has really awakened an interest in science for many of them,” says Shaver.

The students are responsible for caring for the gardens. They check the pH level, keep the water reservoir filled, and clean the tower. They grow Bibb lettuce, Swiss chard, bok choy, basil, cilantro, parsley and other greens. About once a month they harvest and replant the tower. After harvest, they try different recipes that incorporate what they've grown.

Middle school students aren't the only gardeners at St. Roch. Kindergarten teacher Mary Ann Duffy and Preschool teacher Jodi Rivers were selected to participate in the Missouri Botanical Garden's Sprouting Science in the STL program. This partnership helps early childhood educators find ways to safely and effectively incorporate outdoor learning experiences in their curriculum.

Prior to joining the program, St. Roch already had begun to expand its outdoor learning space with the addition of garden boxes on the school grounds. In the fall, Duffy used the boxes as part of her curriculum for teaching the five senses. Students planted lettuce, marigolds, and various spices to compare scents. This spring, her students planted vegetables in the garden.

Rivers had her preschool students plant lettuce seeds in ice cream cones that they then planted in the garden boxes. “Using ice cream cones allowed us to start planting indoors when the weather was colder so we would be ready to move them to the garden boxes when the weather improved,” says Rivers. The cones also helped the preschool students with spacing the seeds in the garden boxes and seeing where to water. The cones are biodegradable and eventually will vanish as the lettuce emerges.

As part of the program, the Botanical Garden is constructing a native garden on the St. Roch School grounds. The teachers are in the process of identifying the best spot for the garden and looking through the plant catalogue provided by the Garden to select items for their garden.

They are also participating in the Sprouting Science Family Night at the Missouri Botanical Garden. The program, which began in January, extends until May of 2018.

St. Roch is the only archdiocesan school selected for the program. About 30 private and public schools from St. Louis and Illinois are participating.

St. Roch Catholic School is located at 6040 Waterman Boulevard in the Skinker-DeBaliviere neighborhood. The school serves children in preschool through eighth grades, with one classroom per grade and a total student population of 210 students. Students come from 22 different zip codes throughout the St. Louis metropolitan area and make up a diverse, dynamic, and dedicated student body. For more information, visit www.strochparish.com.

Special to Kids Corner:

Women are Just as Smart as Men

By Margaret Thompson

Have you ever doubted a woman's smarts because of her gender? If you answered “yes” have you considered that many women have high IQs and excel in math and science? Women are just as smart as men. Therefore we need more gender equality.

Women are just as smart as men because they are excelling in math and science. You may be thinking, “Well maybe those men should give women a chance, but are women that smart?” Yes, research shows that girls sometimes exceed some of men's grades.

But mostly they get the same amount of good grades. According to the GEM Club, a website for girls, ever since 1994 women have been excelling just as much as men in S.T.E.M and still are today.

Women are just as smart as men not only in math and science but research shows that boys' and girls' IQs are equal. In fact, some of women's IQs have improved faster, but for the most part they are equal. But some men (and even some women) still refuse to believe that women and men are equal even though they are.

Women are just as smart as men which is why we need more gender equality. You may have heard of this before. Gender equality is the balance of men and women. Pretty much everywhere we don't have enough of this and need more. Not only is this happening in people's heads, but it's happening a lot if you look for it. For example, if a man and woman are working in the same job (a woman may even be working harder), a woman is sometimes paid less. And not only is every president we have had a man, but men also dominate the government.

Women are just as smart as men. Even though a man could be smarter than a woman, research shows that smarts is not categorized by gender. Women are just as smart as men because of IQs and excelling in math and science, which is why we need more gender equality.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: My name is Margaret Thompson. I am eleven years old and in fifth grade at Captain School. I live with my family on the 6100 block of McPherson. I am writing this because I know from personal experience that girls and boys are not always treated equally. And of course, if you answered that first question yes, I decided to try to prove you wrong. Hopefully I did.

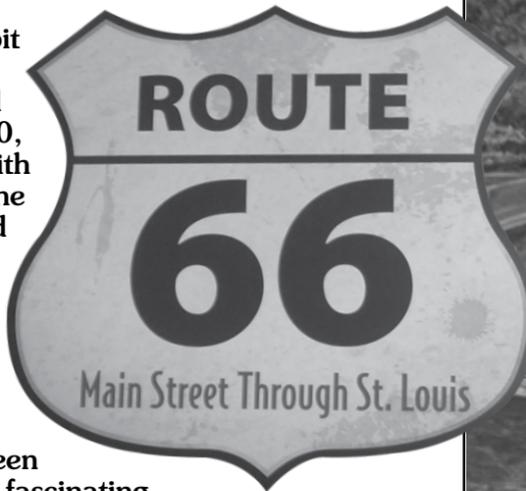
Get Your Kicks on Route 66 - Featuring Andy Cross

By Jo Ann Vatcha

The Missouri History Museum's "Show Me 66" Exhibit runs through July 16, 2017. It's free and really fun. Among the special features are several original artworks by our neighbor Andy Cross. On April 30, at the request of museum staff who had worked with him on the exhibit, Andy gave a presentation in the Desmond Lee Auditorium to give some background insights into his artistic process. It was a unique opportunity to understand all that goes into the creation of such exhibits.

To create wall murals to surround a screen for the "66 Drive-In Movies," Andy created an entire drive-in full of classic cars. Describing how he researched a wide variety of body styles and types that might have been cruising to the drive-in movies back in the day was fascinating. Hundreds of hours were spent in research and photography before his paint brush touched the canvas. Andy explained how his appreciation of the sculptural details of the various cars piqued his interest. He also created several "close-up" paintings of some of the car details. These paintings were displayed in the museum's lobby. For those familiar with Andy's fine line drawings, the bold car colors and large images might be surprising revelations. His experience painting for the Muny Opera include many other examples of his large-scale work. And his 23 foot moon was a stunner at the Shakespeare Festival!

For the Show Me 66 Exhibit at MOHIS, he also created "touchable models" for the sight-impaired to enjoy the exhibit: the entry markers of the Coral Courts, an old-style gas pump, and Ted Drewes original ice cream machine. At the Drive-in Movies, Andy created benches painted like car rears and grills. There's so much to see and enjoy at this special exhibit: don't miss seeing the great work of your artist-neighbor Andy Cross!



Help Bring Back Pollinator Populations

By Rebecca Eisele, Landscape Designer
Quiet Village Landscaping

Recently, we've seen an increase in attention focused on the plight of pollinators, in particular the honeybee. Honeybees are extremely important agricultural pollinators, while other native bees are also seeing population declines. The Rusty Patched Bumblebee is native to the Upper Midwest and was just added to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services endangered list. Many people have been asking us what they can do to help support local St. Louis-area bee, butterfly, and other pollinator populations.

Our short answer? Start by incorporating plant species that are both native to our region, and our perennial plants.

Below we're sharing a few more pollinator-friendly steps anyone can take to help bring back important pollinator populations to St. Louis.

Attract pollinators with resources. To attract pollinators, you'll need to provide

flowering plants with pollen or nectar. Diversity is important, because flowers with different colors and shapes will attract different pollinator species. Also, be sure to include species that bloom across the entire growing season (spring, summer, and fall). Native plants are what our local pollinators have evolved with, so they'll always recognize and use them!

Plant host plants. Just like monarch butterflies need milkweed to survive, other butterfly and moth species have particular plants they need to eat in order to develop. Use your own backyard to provide host plants that will ensure future generations of butterflies can mature. Read more about monarchs in the Midwest here.

Avoid pesticide use. Outdoor pesticides are designed to kill pesky insects, yet sometimes they also unintentionally kill our pollinator friends. When you add plants to your landscape, make sure they haven't been treated with systemic pesticides. And,

if at all possible, make your entire property pesticide-free.

Give pollinators a nesting site. Lots of insects like to nest in bare ground, leaf litter, or even hollow stems. Allowing some space in your yard to be a little less tidy can benefit local insects. You can also build or buy an attractive bee house that will add a fun design feature to your pollinator garden!

Helping pollinators starts in each and every St. Louis backyard. Native plants are critical to the survival or pollinator populations, and these native plants below are recommended by our horticulturalists to provide local bee and pollinator populations the resources they need:

Bergamot, New England aster, Stiff goldenrod, Prairie blazing star, American pussy willow, Purple coneflower. The landscape design team at Quiet Village Landscaping strives to incorporate native plants into each and every outdoor living design, and we'd love to discuss your ideas on bringing beautiful pollinators to your own outdoor spaces!

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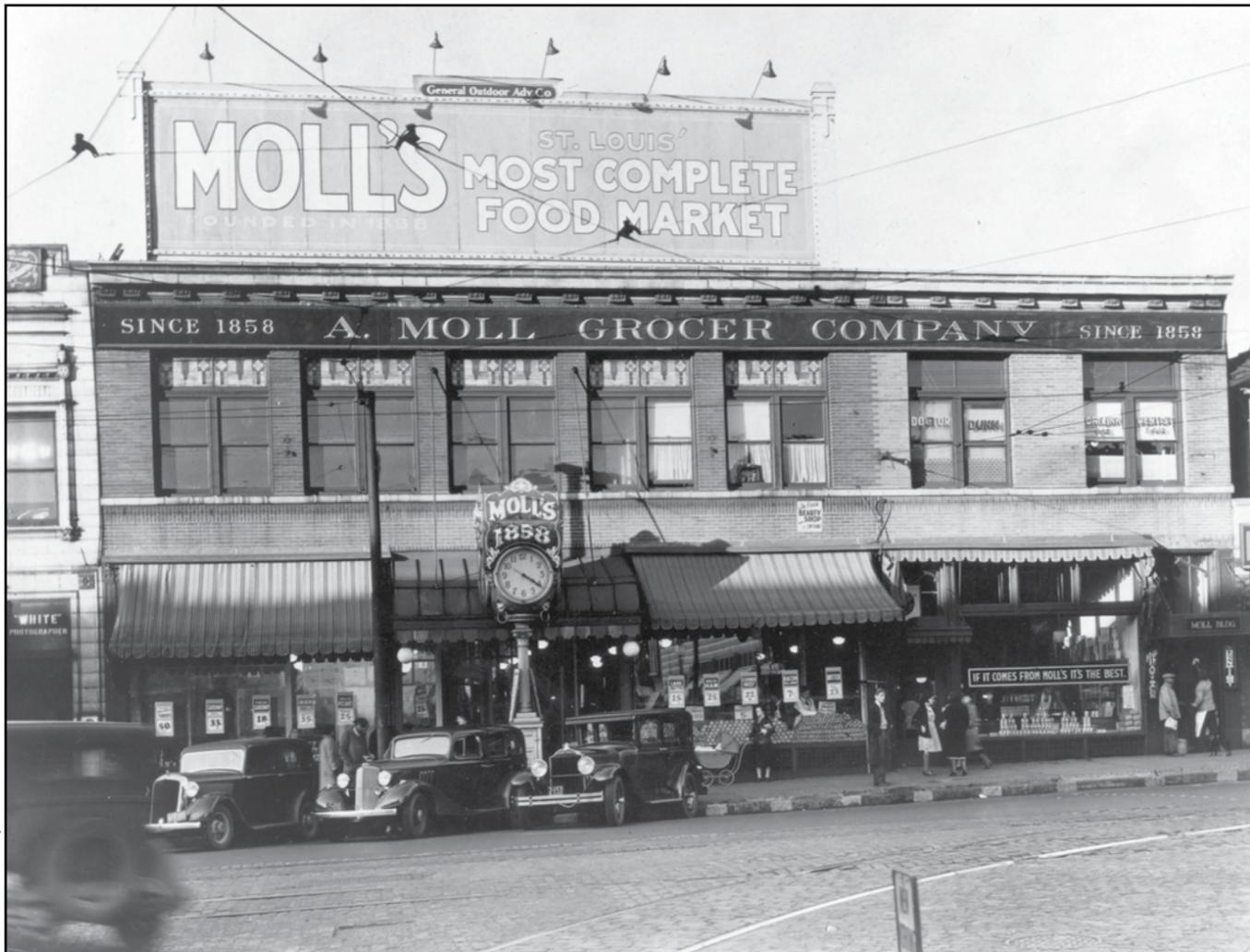
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from Missouri History Museum

This was the grand A Molls Grocer Company in 1942. Above the great cars stands the clock with its Molls 1858 title. Even with the angle parking, there was room for the trolley.

Molls Grocery on DeBaliviere

By Jo Ann Vatcha and Anne Voss

Back in the day, folks did their food shopping every day, and there were literally dozens of alternatives throughout the neighborhood. Researching DeBaliviere’s fifty plus years of businesses, it was a great surprise to find so many “food shops”, “butchers”, “bakeries”, and more. But right at the intersection of DeBaliviere and Delmar, one place really stood out: Molls, with its grand clock on the sidewalk, proudly stating its origin in 1858.

Adolph Moll had started his business way back in 1858, with a partner and a store was at 7th and Franklin in what we now call downtown. His great-grandson recalled in a publication called the Progressive Grocer that they served 17 states via steamboats taking labelled goods to outlying areas and bringing back various foodstuffs. The lavish store on Delmar at DeBaliviere was built after the World’s Fair and lasted about 50 years, demolished as part of the West End Renewal Project in the early 60’s, partly to make major repairs to the sewer lines going north. The resulting vacant land became the “Ruth C. Porter Mall” a city park dedicated to the area’s local civil rights pioneers.

Anne Reis Voss grew up in the area and has participated in many community organizations, including the West End Community Conference and for the past twenty plus years with the Delmar Commercial Committee. Her memories of walking to DeBaliviere to the memorable ice skating

Wintergarden rink are recounted in the TIMES (see sdtimes.org and go to neighborhood history, then DeBaliviere stories).

Anne: I recall walking over to Molls from Clemens for groceries and bakery bread--about 1940. It smelled so good I had to have a slice before I got home. There was a gangway just west of the store and its neighbor Glaze Hardware. The gangway was always flooded. I remember walking through water to St. Rose of Lima Grade School at Goodfellow and Etzel, 1932 to 1940.

My brother Andy walked over to Molls in the late 30’s early in the morning to butter the tops of the bread. Mother went to a beauty school west of the gangway from Molls. East of the store were two “dime stores”, Woolworths and Kresges, a furniture store and a Kroger grocery, a jewelry store and the Golden Fried Chicken Loaf. The Pageant Theatre was just west of Goodfellow. These were all on the north side of Delmar. On the south side were the Barrel Bar and the Top Hat Bar.

I started West End Renewal in 1964, which created a greenway directly north of DeBaliviere, demolishing Molls and extending all the way to create Skinker north of Delmar. The beautiful clock was moved to Laclede Landing.

Jo Ann: When you ride the trolley and go around the bend at DeBaliviere and Delmar, take a moment and imagine MOLLS!

STL Village Third Anniversary Event on June 22

By Elizabeth Backus

STL Village invites the public to join us for our “Third Anniversary Celebration Happy Hour” on Thursday, June 22nd, 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm at the Highlands Golf and Tennis Center at Forest Park, 5163 Clayton Ave., St. Louis MO 63110. The event is free but reservations are requested by contacting STL Village at 314-802-0275 or at info@stlvillage.org.

STL Village will also be kicking off a new associate membership option for adults 50+ residing throughout the St. Louis area, which includes access to all monthly Village activities and events. “We have a lot of demand from people living outside of our neighborhood footprint who want to be part of STL Village, so we are excited to offer this new membership option,” said Madeline Franklin, STL Village executive director. “Our happy hours are one of the most popular events on our calendar, making this a perfect way to celebrate our anniversary. Everyone is welcome.”

STL Village is a nonprofit organization providing adults a network of resources and engagement opportunities that promote an active lifestyle and the ability to age in place in the homes and neighborhoods we choose. To learn more, visit stlvillage.org.

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IN YOUR EAR

By Hawkeye Z. Hoerr, Commentary in the TIMES for more than 33 years.

There's a lot of talk about self-driving cars. I'm old enough that I used to use a rotary phone and drove a stick-shift car, so the prospect of being driven around by a robot is still pretty mind-boggling. Apparently the technology needed for a bot ain't that big of a deal, though.

Already when I'm driving to a distant land – say someplace west of Hanley – and am using my phone's GPS so I am not lost, it tells me when I am a quarter mile from an intersection. Sometimes it tells me to move to the left lane. So big brother is already in the cloud and he has my car tracked and monitored like something in a John Le Carre novel. Given that, how hard will it be to just relax and let the bot do the driving?

Yep, this will happen sooner than we suspect. My hunch is that self-driving technology will be a feature in new cars by 2022, and bot-cars will become common by 2030. Once this is common – not that far away, certainly by the time today's kindergarten student graduates from high school – it will change how we commute. First, at a simple level, the design, the shape and interior of cars will change radically. There will be no need to have a rectangle in which everyone faces forward. Bot-cars will become more rounded because the seating will be circular, facing in. Yeah, you will be able to play cards with friends while being driven by your bot. Since all of these bot-cars are going to be managed by super computers (envision John Travolta as God managing the strings of a million marionettes), they will go faster and be closer

together, thus eliminating traffic jams or even back-ups. Sell your auto insurance stock!

Since you're not driving – you're being conveyed – the seats will be larger, more like reclining chairs. If you wish, you can sit back and nap, watch bot TV, or read *Fifty Shades of Chartreuse*. You'll be able to text without endangering everyone else on the road! This ability to be totally inattentive will make it possible to go on long, long journeys without stopping the car – oops, I mean without stopping the bot-car – and that will have a powerful impact on the airline industry. Why spend time taking off shoes, going through the metal detector, and arriving 90 minutes early for a flight when you can sit in your comfortable bot-car and be conveyed? Short flights, those of an hour or less, will become a thing of the past, and even longer ones will be a rarity. Sell your TWA airline stock!

The hotel and motel industry will take a hit too. No longer will people need to stop and get a room because they're tired of driving or need to rest. They'll simply program the bot-car and crash in their recliner chair (which converts to a bed) so they can be conveyed through the night. There will be far fewer desk clerks and custodial staff so most of the people in the hospitality industry are going to be looking for jobs. Sell your Holiday Inn stock!

For that matter, once the car transforms into a bot, the notion of auto ownership will change. Why should you own a car that sits dormant for 95% of the

time? It's really a big ornament with wheels! You see, it doesn't need to be your car, after all. Since it's really a bot, it can be summoned by someone else by the password and simply report to them for their journey. In this way a bot-car can be in use, actually moving, most of the hours of the day. Sure, that full day use will increase the wear and tear but it won't matter much to you because you'll only own 5% of the bot-car. Neighbors and friends will come together to invest in their joint auto-bot, and program it so that it goes from person to person, task to task. And while some of the time it will be delivering passengers, a lot of the time the bot-car will simply be a land-drone going from station to station – getting the cleaning or groceries. Sell your GM stock!

We may see this kind of bot-car used first with restaurants and supermarkets. Already, some local companies are offering delivery of meals or groceries within an hour – just go to their website, make your selections, give them your credit card number, and bingo! While that's good and convenient, think of how much they could reduce their costs if they simply needed to load your order into the bot-car and forget about paying a driver. That will probably begin to happen in President Trump's second term. Sell your U.S. Savings Bonds!

The evolution of autos is just the first step. As computers become smaller and smaller (a new IBM transistor chip is 7 nanometers wide, 1/10,000 the width of a human hair), their capacity will increase while the cost diminishes. Most of our jobs are vulnerable to being done by a bot, and

that isn't limited to low-level repetitive work. Years ago Ray Kurzweil (the inventor of voice-recognition technology) said that someday you won't know whether the teacher in front of the classroom is a real person or a hologram. Computers that can read facial expressions and understand voice tones are already being used in emergency room reception areas; they infer from what the patient says as well as how the patient looks and sounds to determine what should happen next. Buy IBM stock!

The future is filled with promise and yet it worries me. I don't know where we are going, but I'm sure that I'll be driven there in the communal bot-car.



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